

# DIVISION OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

## COORDINATING CDC'S RESPONSE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES

Oversees CDC's Emergency Management Program, which is responsible for the overall coordination of the agency's preparedness for, response to, and recovery from public health emergencies, including operating CDC's Emergency Operations Center.

### RESPONSE TO PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS

#### BEFORE



**TRAINING:** CDC prepares its responders by improving their technical skills and getting them ready to deploy to the site of the emergency.



**EXERCISE:** practice responding to different public health threats ranging from natural disasters to pandemic emergencies.

#### DURING



**LOGISTICS:** works 24/7/365 during CDC's emergency response to a public health threat by purchasing and shipping needed supplies and equipment; shipping specimens; and making travel arrangements for CDC personnel deploying to the site of the emergency.



**COMMUNICATION:** CDC's emergency risk communication for all-hazards preparedness and response involves ensuring timely, consistent, targeted, and actionable information reaches the public and stakeholders during emergencies.

#### AFTER



**AFTER ACTION REPORT:** an evaluation conducted after every CDC emergency response that identifies what was done well and what can be improved.

### CDC'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC)



Established in 2003 as a state-of-the-art facility at CDC headquarters in Atlanta

Has supported CDC's response to **50+** public health threats



Can seat up to **230 people** at a time for **8-hour shifts**



Operates **24/7/365**, providing around-the-clock health monitoring and emergency response

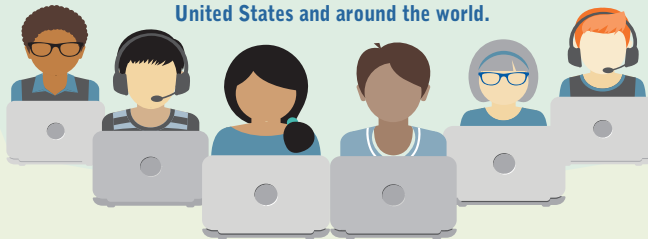


Deploys scientific experts to the site of the emergency to collaborate on a response



Coordinates delivery of supplies and equipment during an emergency

The command center for monitoring and coordinating CDC's emergency response to public health threats in the United States and around the world.



### CDC WATCH DESK

Doctors, public health agencies, and the general public report public health threats to CDC through the EOC Watch Desk.

In 2015, the EOC Watch desk received:



**25,188** calls



**1,906** calls from city, county, or state health departments



**2,883** calls from clinicians/hospitals

### INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (IMS)

A standardized emergency response operating system used to manage CDC's response by coordinating the roles of CDC and state public health officials.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIVATION LEVELS

LEVEL 3

Lowest activation level, CDC experts on the specific type of emergency with staff from their program area lead the response with minimal assistance from the Division of Emergency Operations to address the primary needs of the response.

LEVEL 2

A mid-level response, CDC experts on the specific type of emergency with a large number of staff from their program area lead the response with significant assistance from the Division of Emergency Operations to meet the time-sensitive tasks/needs of the response beyond CDC's core business hours.

LEVEL 1

The highest level of response reserved for critical emergencies, which often require substantial agency-wide effort and response needs are beyond the lead CIO's capacity because of the magnitude of the event.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response